To build community and provide an opportunity for discussion, EDC MOOC would like to hold weekly Twitter chats using the hashtag #edcmchat.

Any EDC MOOC student can participate in moderating a Twitter chat. No experience is necessary.

Each week a different group moderates the Twitter chat, and is responsible for finding participants for the following week, so we can offer opportunities for all, not just a select group.

Preferably there should be at least 3 to 4 people to carry out different tasks.

It's not difficult at all, and of course, any of us can always help you and offer tips.

Also, we suggest that each week the chats be held at different time zones; again for the same reason, to reach out to as many of our members and make our MOOC as inclusive as possible.

1.) Be sure to have a Twitter account.

2.) Sign up for Tweetchat or Tweetdeck to use as a filter. This is critical especially for the person(s) who will be tweeting the questions to the audience. (I recommend Tweetchat.)

3.) Get together with your group to generate a set of questions based on the course content. Generate a minimum of 5 questions to cover an hour chat, and allow participants time to tweet, reply and retweet, or even ask questions.

Be sure questions are open-ended, and thought-provoking, but answerable in 140 characters or less. No yes or no questions.

4.) All moderators in the group should look for insightful tweets to retweet.

5.) All moderators should also interact with as many participants as possible by replying to tweets.

6.) Be sure to begin with introductions since some participants may be new. Be sure to end with acknowledgements and reminders that chat will be archived.

7.) Be sure to remind participants at the begininng and throughout to use hashtag #edcmchat when tweeting. Some may also use #edcmooc and that's ok too. But, #edcmchat needs to be there as well so tweet is included in the chat.

8.) Be sure to send out a few tweets throughout the chat to reassure new Twitter users that Twitter chats are fast, and they should not expect to be able to read all tweets. That's what archives are for.

9.) You need to decide who will tweet the questions. This person(s) needs to be able to alternate between tweeting as himself or herself and as through the @edcmchat Twiiter account. So, this person will need to have two browsers open, one with his/her personal Twitter account, and the other as the voice of the @edcmchat Twitter account.

10. Be sure to archive the Twitter chat at the end. You can use Storify to do so.

11. Be sure to announce the day and time of the Twitter chat at least 24hrs in advance. Tweet, Post on FB and G+. Provide link to World Buddy Clock.

Please feel free to contact anyone one of us whose name appears below should you have questions, need help, or if someone is unable to moderate at the last minute; we will try to help as best we can.

The edcmchat account USERNAME: edcmchat

The edcmchat PASSWORD: contact @trendingteacher